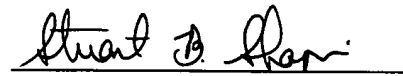


for a formal matter. In particular, the Examiner states that the original patent (U.S. Patent No. 5,844,757), or an affidavit or declaration as to the loss or inaccessibility of the original patent, must be received before the reissue application can be allowed. Accordingly, submitted herewith is original Letters Patent 5,844,757.

The application, having been shown to overcome issues raised in the Office Action, is considered to be in condition for allowance and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Stuart B. Shapiro", is written over a horizontal line.

Stuart B. Shapiro

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